

To: Ham, Greg[Ham.Greg@epa.gov]; Nesmith, Rodney[rnesmith@pa.gov]
Cc: Conrad, Robert[roconrad@pa.gov]
From: Moore, Brian
Sent: Mon 8/3/2015 2:31:48 PM
Subject: RE: Miller Fire and radioactivity
K40 answer
RE: K40 answer

Greg,

Yes we are aware of it. Several of the loads of debris from the Miller building set off the radiation detectors at the landfills. The source was identified as Potassium 40 just above background levels which tripped the alarms. Our radiation protection program has been involved for a month now on it and we have responded to numerous inquiries regarding it I have attached several e-mails to this one the correspondence. Our guidance on the issues has been that it's not a concern to the water intakes as we don't believe the material ever left the site and if it did it would be so dilute as to be undetectable, which was communicated to all of the water systems several weeks ago. If you'd like to discuss further please give me a call.

Brian

Brian L. Moore | Manager

Emergency Response Program

Department of Environmental Protection

909 Elmerton Avenue | Harrisburg, PA 17110

Phone: 717.705.4741 | Fax: 717.705.4890

www.depweb.state.pa.us

The 24-hour toll free Emergency Response number for the SCRO is: 866-825-0208

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From: Ham, Greg [mailto:Ham.Greg@epa.gov]
Sent: Monday, August 03, 2015 10:25 AM
To: Moore, Brian
Subject: Miller Fire and radioactivity

Brian, are you aware of this issue related to Potassium 40 radioactivity?

Greg

From: Stipp, Lorraine **On Behalf Of** Group LIBRARY-REG3
Sent: Monday, August 03, 2015 10:20 AM
To: Ham, Greg
Subject: FW: (003083955) General Comments

Hello Greg, Region III received this correspondence from Steve Hovis, Esq. regarding Miller Chemical and Fertilizer fire and water contamination.

Thanks in advance Greg.

Best Regards,

Ex. 4 - CBI

ASRC Primus Contractor

EPA Public Information Technician

1650 Arch Street (3CG00)

Philadelphia, Pa. 19103

215.814.5366 (PH)

-----Original Message-----

From: idaemon@unixmail.rtpnc.epa.gov [mailto:idaemon@rtpnc.epa.gov]

Sent: Monday, August 03, 2015 8:40 AM

To: Group LIBRARY-REG3

Subject: (003083955) General Comments

UserWord

word

Word

word

comments

I represent the New Oxford Municipal Authority who operates a water treatment plant in Adams County, PA. Recently a fertilizer plant located upstream from its intake had a major fire. Substantial water was used on the fire and was deposited into the stream that feeds into our intake. Substantial harm was done to the stream including the death of over 10,000 fish. Our intake was closed prior to our water reserves could be contaminated. Right now we are struggling with when and how to open our intake and provide clean and safe water. The most recent issue involves Potassium 40. The owner of the plant attempted to deliver to a local landfill fire and soil debris that was noted as being radioactive. Tests revealed Potassium 40 as the source of the radioactive levels. Our basic research indicates that Pot40 does occur naturally in many instances and has no known commercial use or benefit. However, Pot40 is supposedly very beneficial for the fertilizer products. Early Potassium readings after the fire were in the range of 900 parts when base line levels were 4 or 5. We don't know if the 900 was Pot40 related or not. Recent test show Pot to be done in the 5s. We are getting very little guidance on this issue and are looking for some direction on how to deal with any testing or monitoring as part of the decision to open our water intake valve. Any guidance would be greatly appreciated.

email

shovis@stockandleader.com

org

Steve Hovis, Stock and Leader

phone

717 849-4105

submit

Submit

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